

Michigan Gun Owners Newsletter

Upcoming Events

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- **Outdoorama: Feb 25 – 28** at Rock Financial Showplace...come stop by the MGO booth!
- **Advanced Ranges Fun shoot: March 19** MGO will be hosting a fun shoot at Advanced Ranges in Burton from 6-8pm. Bring the family!
- **Ultimate Sports Show: March 18 – 21** MGO will also have a booth at this great show! If you are able to help man the booth on any day please contact the activities committee chair.
- **Board Meeting: April 17** We will be having a combo board meeting at Silver Bullet range in Wyoming, MI. Meeting starts at 6pm, come a little early for a meet and greet with the members!
- **FNRA Banquet: April 23** Join us for our second annual FNRA Banquet being held in Perry! Doors open at 5pm, there will be plenty good food and LOTS of great raffle and auction items! Tickets available through the MGO online store.

Michigan Gun Owners Updated Mission Statement

Michigan Gun Owners is a not-for-profit grassroots organization committed to educating the public on safe, responsible gun ownership and preserving and defending the right to keep and bear arms as guaranteed by the Bill of Rights and Article I, Section 6 of Michigan's Constitution.

February 2010 EC/Membership Meeting

By Mark "wwjmaj" Jackson

By-Laws PASS - February 20, 2010 saw 26 persons attending at least part of the MGO Mid-Year Membership meeting and fun shoot at Duncan's Outdoor Shop in Bay City. With 24 members voting in favor of the new By-Laws and 12 opposed MGO adopted the proposed By-Laws. This culminates a two year effort to improve member voting and general update for organizational efficiency. Thank you Shurhouse for your work on this AND to G22 and the Elections Committee for all your time and efforts are behalf of Michigan Gun Owners.

Please see *February 2010 EC/Membership Meeting* on page 4

Committee Reports

Grant Committee

By Rick "fbuckner"

That goes on to the Grant Committee that seeks out funding through national and local means to offset the costs of programs. MGO is growing and at this time can not support a huge need for education and firearms. Thru grants we can achieve a whole lot more than in the past. It used to be a few people put forth a lot more than their personal time. With the economy so bad these people can no longer carry the burden. I pleases me to say that the programs can continue to grow and someday be a statewide required part of school safety presentations.



BLOC - New Bylaws

By "Shurhouse"

On February 20th, 2010 the Members of MGO, attending a Special Meeting of the Membership at Duncan's Outdoor Shop, adopted a new set of Bylaws. These are the first changes in the Bylaws since 2007 and became effective immediately. Some of the changes are:

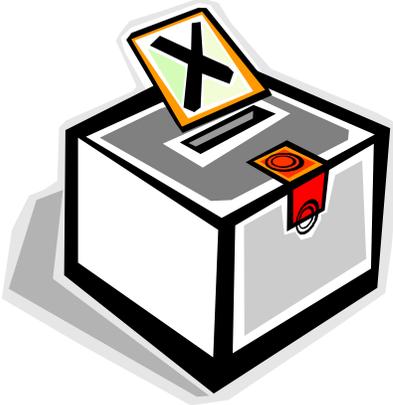
1. The elimination of proxy voting.
2. Associate Members are now Forum Members
3. The Executive Committee is now the Board of Directors and Committee Members are now the Directors.
4. Sets the maximum number of seats on the Board of Directors to 9.
5. The requirement for a verbatim record of a Membership revocation has been changed to a option if requested for and paid for by the Member.
6. Establishes the length of term for the Board of Directors.
7. Allows for the Office of President to be held by someone holding an office in another similar group with a majority approval of the Board of Directors.
8. Any expense greater than \$100.00 must be approved by the Board of Directors and any check, money order, etc. must have 2 authorized signatures.

These changes along with some other additions and deletions will help Michigan Gun Owners move to the next step needed in our efforts to educate and protect our 2A rights.

Safe Storage Committee

By Rick "fbuckner"

MGO's safe storage committee is committed to teaching the responsible and safe storage of firearms to adults. If more adults took a few seconds to ponder the potential accidents in their home by un-locked and un-attended firearms in their homes there would not be so many accidental injuries and deaths. MGO has received grant money from the NRA to achieve this goal. Last year we were given a check for \$3600 to promote and educate safe storage. Together with several dedicated instructors, volunteers and our partners at Michigan2A.org We have taught over 1200 students and close to 300 adults both the safe storage program and KidSafe. This has always been one of MGO's Jewels and is personal with me. I have a dear friend who lost her son to a firearm that was not stored properly. Her son was 14 at the time of his death and the world is missing a bright young man because of someone's neglect in my opinion.



February 2010 EC/Membership Meeting-Cont'd

By Mark "wwjmaj" Jackson

February 2010 EC/Membership Meeting from page 2

Members present also got the first look at the Board of Directors recent work on the Long Range Plan complete with a slightly revised Mission Statement, One Year Plan, Three Year Plan and Five Year Plan all designed to establish MGO as:

- ◆ THE LARGEST SOURCE OF FIREARMS EDUCATION IN MICHIGAN.
- ◆ THE LEADER IN LEGALIZING SUPPRESSORS RECOGNIZING THEIR VALUE IN FIREARMS EDUCATION AND TRAINING.
- ◆ THE LEADER IN ELIMINATING CRIMINAL EMPOWERMENT ZONES IN MICHIGAN.
- ◆ THE POSITIVE QUOTED SOURCE FOR SAFE LAWFUL USE OF FIREARMS IN THE MICHIGAN PRESS.
- ◆ ABOVE REPROACH AS A NONPROFIT FOR FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY.

Dougwg designed and presented his custom chrome engraved "Ban Hammer" to PhotoTom.



Members also learned that Tallbear and President Buckner recently met with representatives of the Detroit Public Schools and the Howell schools respectively. These contacts may lead to MGO Safe Storage materials being incorporated into educator training in Detroit and Howell is considering incorporating our safety materials in the Life Skills curriculum.

Kudos to Shurhouse for organizing the meeting at Duncan's Outdoor Shop. The location proved perfect for the necessary business, enjoyment of the food he arranged, desserts members provided, and the fun shoot. G22 even brought a first time shooter who was guided through his first "on target" experience by the patient Duncan's staff and MGO members! THANK YOU to all who voted, attended, or otherwise helped MGO move forward.

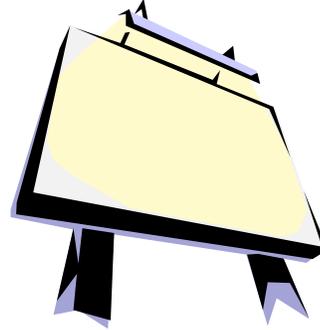
Advertising and Marketing Committee**By Jeff "Barrettone" Lafave**

We are currently looking for suggestions to help better market and advertise MGO. Additionally, we are looking to put together a comprehensive program for advertisers on our webpage so that we can optimize its potential. If you would like to help out by donating some time to this endeavor, please feel free to email me at: jlafave@mich.com

OR PM me on the board.

Thanks.

Jeff LaFave aka "[Barrettone](#)"

**FNRA Committee****By Jeff "Barrettone" Lafave**

We are looking forward to our 2'nd Annual Friends of the NRA Dinner coming up on April 23rd, 2010 in Perry Michigan. If you would like to help by selling tickets or soliciting sponsors for the event, please feel free to email me at: jlafave@mich.com

Tickets for the event are available for online purchase at the MGO Store:

<http://www.migunowners.org/forum/products.php?cat=10>

Just fill out the info on the purchase page and your dinner tickets will be mailed to you and your raffle ticket packages will be waiting for you at the door the night of the event.

Come join us for a fun evening with your fellow 2nd Amendment enthusiasts!!! There will be a wonderful catered dinner (with beer, wine and soft drinks included), games, silent and live auctions not to mention prizes and GUNS, GUNS, GUNS!!! There are 2 packages to choose from as well as a "ticket only" option. It is HIGHLY recommended that you consider a package as it allows you to get into the optimum amount of drawings with the least cash outlay (and allows you more \$\$\$ to play other games). The raffle tickets are substantially less when bought in a package versus at the event. This years dinner is going to be held at:

**Perry Township Hall
2770 W. Ellsworth Rd.
Perry, MI 48872
517.625.4597**

Doors open at 5pm and a strolling dinner begins at 6pm.

***Note that this a carry-friendly event, however alcohol is available (beer/wine).

Thanks,
Jeff

Details about the event are located at:

<http://www.migunowners.org/forum/showthread.php?t=80506>

Policy and Procedure Committee

By Johnzilla

The Policy and Procedures committee's job is to collect, document, develop and maintain policies and procedures used by the organization. The primary method of doing this is through the MGO Policies and Procedures manual, which is currently being developed and revised in committee.

Many people ask how the manual is different from the Bylaws, or why we need a manual when we have the Bylaws. While the Bylaws govern the organization, the Policies and Procedures manual describes the actual implementation of the Bylaws. For example, the Bylaws may provide for the various officer positions. However, in many cases the Bylaws don't explain exactly how these officers should conduct day-to-day business. The Bylaws provide for officers, but they don't explain exactly how the Treasurer works with the bank to pay the organization's bills and collect monies, where the organization's mailing address is, who should answer the organization's phone, and more.

It is important to keep regular business activities outside of the Bylaws while still maintaining proper controls, checks and audits and making sure nothing conflicts with or goes against the Bylaws. If every process and every procedure were in the Bylaws, a Special Meeting and a majority vote would be required to make changes to a process. This would be overly cumbersome...imagine having to call a Special Meeting and get a majority vote every time the organization needed to decide who should answer the phone or figure out how many times a week to check the post office box.

More Member input into the Policies and Procedures manual and committee is welcome. Especially in light of the recent vote passing the proposed Bylaws changes, there's a lot of work to be done!



Gear- Walther PPS

By Dave "Postban" Franey

Walther has long been known for quality compact pistols. Their PPK and PPK/S in 32 ACP and 380 ACP have been fielded by German military, American enthusiasts and one famous Brit, Bond.... James Bond. Now they have taken that greatly desired compactness and added some real power all while maintaining excellent firing behavior. Yes Virginia, you can have your pocket pistol in 9mm or 40S&W and hit effectively with it too.

Walther came out with this very slim single stack striker fired pistol only a few years ago, originally in 9mm and quickly followed with a 40 S&W version. The 9mm holds 6,7 or 8 rds depending on which magazine base you have on your mag body. The 40 similarly totes 5, 6 or 7 rds not including the round in the chamber. So you can have eight or nine, depending on caliber choice, full power defensive rounds on call in this very compact and well behaved package.

Some neat facts on the PPS; it is shorter overall than a typical 2" bbl 38 snubby, substantially thinner too. It weighs less than its cousin PPK/S in 380ACP by two ozs. It comes with interchangeable back straps in two sizes. It is as comfortable to shoot with +P ammo as a Glock 19 despite being so much shorter and thinner in frame and grip size. It uses a single magazine body for each caliber so you can extend or reduce capacity by switching mag bases. It is imported and serviced by Smith and Wesson so you can count on excellent customer service. The magazine release is ambidextrous and surrounds the lower strap of the trigger guard.

There are a few glaring negatives that must be mentioned also, magazine price and lack of proper night sights. Magazine cost is typically somewhere around \$50 each. OK, close your mouth. All the mags are made by MecGar so they are reliable and well finished despite being bizarrely over priced.

Not one of the current big night sight makers produces a set for the PPS. There are a few outfits willing to sell you P99 sights that need modifications in order to fit. Also a few places that will drill your stock sights and install tritium vials at about twice the going rate for normal night sights. Not really sure why this excellent gun is being ignored by them. You would think the power of Smith and Wesson being a trading and warranty partner would have this glitch resolved but no....

The PPS uses a partially cocked striker firing mechanism similar to Brand G and S&W M&P series. It has a loaded chamber indicator as well as cocking indicator. It features an under barrel rail for accessories like light or laser. I have a TLR-3 light on mine which adds a few ounces and mm's to the width on the nose of the gun but the body is still slim and easily concealed.





I have fired it with a variety of 9mm factory and reloads and have had excellent accuracy and reliability. It will feed truncated cone 122gr lead reloads as well as 124gr CorBon or Golden Saber. Typically accuracy is about 2" offhand at 15 yds on a 6" bull. If you hold 6 o'clock it will stack them right on top of the front sight at that distance. It has even passed my "golf ball test" at The Pit in Lapeer. I throw out about 5 golf balls a short distance and then just shoot them till they are against the back berm. This PPS connects with the 2" round targets out to about 35yds before they get lost in the mess there. That was with Wolf 115gr FMJ too.

Just a note about the NTAC Kydex and John, it is top notch gear and he is meticulous about detail. Both versions I have received from him, light and non light have ever-so-nicely "snicked" into position on reholstering. The draw tension is perfect requiring a light tug to bring the pistol to bear. You would think adding a light to a pistol would hamper reholstering but he gets the flare and form of the holster mouth just ideal. It goes in 3/4 of the way loosely and then engages the internal form he left to retain the pistol either on the light or on the trigger guard. I have another of his IWB rigs for my M&P/TLR-1 so I knew it was gonna be good. NTAC is a really good first choice for those who like to go with a quality local made product.

I know what it takes for me to feel confident with a pistol. It is that called shot, you pick a small spot on a target and just are able to stack your shots right there. Not all guns or shooters can do it. My G19 can, my old Kimber ProCDP could and this gun can. It is a keeper.

[Gunsmithing Tips - Choke Tube Maintenance](#)

By Mike "Mike in Michigan" Ryan - from [Mike Ryan Gunsmithing](#)

Shotgun choke tubes seldom get your attention, until you try to remove them after years of "I didn't know I had to do anything to my choke tubes". Choke tubes should be installed just snug, not over tightened. Use the proper choke tube installation tool to avoid damaging the tube or scratching the barrel. The tubes on my personal shotgun can be removed and reinstalled with my well-calloused thumb. I check them for "snug" before every shooting session. To prevent trouble with your choke tubes, I recommend the tubes be removed, the tube and barrel threads cleaned, and then reinstalled with choke tube lubricant at least every other time you clean the barrel. Spread a thin bead of lube, about 1/8" wide completely around the end threads of the tube, not inside the barrel, and spread along the adjoining threads with your finger. Commercial choke tube lubricant is merely a high quality anti-seize product and any high quality anti-seize found in an auto parts store will work. Most contain molybdenum disulfide or similar anti-seize compounds that will stand up to the pressure and heat. Frozen choke tube removal almost always involves the destruction of the tube, sometimes with damage to the barrel threads. Just like the car mechanic said, "You can pay me now, or you can pay me later".

Legislative Lighthouse

Some recent bills going through the Michigan Legislature:

SB 0747 Remove college campuses from the no-carry zones.

HB 5416 Allow those who hunt in the “shotgun zone” to use straight walled caliber rifles within certain dimensions.

HB 4334 Eliminate the list of areas in which one with a CPL may not carry a concealed weapon.

SB 1058 This would make the term a CPL is issued for, a full five years.

Visit the [Legislative Lighthouse](#) forum for more bills being presented right now, and for more information on the above bills.

Reloading...Why?

By Matthew “remingtondude58” and Joe “Ol’ Joe”

As reloaders, we receive many questions regarding reloading, some common ones being “What do I need?” and “How much time does it take?”. A very common question that often does not get a good answer is “Why should I reload?”. This answer is going to be different for everyone, but here are some common responses

- **Save money:** while it is true that reloading requires some upfront costs, for many shooters, it is insignificant to the amount of money saved. The question commonly comes up “Is it worth it for me?”, the answer is going to be different for everyone based on many factors like caliber used and rounds fired. Many larger rifle calibers cost more, therefore the savings is greater. It should also be added that while money is saved per round, most just end up shooting more, and the total cost stays the same!
- **Enjoyable hobby:** reloading is a enjoyable and relaxing hobby, that provides many other benefits as well. Reloading does not take your life away, but it does involve some time, but it is all enjoyable.
- **Better ammunition:** by reloading, one can come up with ammunition that works better then anything from a factory. Reloading for accuracy may take a little more time over reloading for speed, but if accuracy is important, reloading should be as well. There is no doubting the quality of factory ammo today. The reloader can improve on them in almost every type with a bit of persistence.



Factory ammo is assembled to work safely and properly in every factory rifle or pistol that builds to SAAMI or CIP standards. This means there are tolerances that have to be allowed to ensure the factory stuff will achieve these goal. The reloader is only worried about his own chamber and bore and can tailor his loads to fit and perform to it without worry about the next guys. Bullets of choice can also be assembled in your own ammo that may not be available in factory offerings. Try to find a factory match load for your 45acp using a Nosler 185gr custom competition HP at a low velocity/recoil that will reliably work the action of your 1911 as example. Or maybe a light recoiling load to teach your child to shoot is needed for your trusty 308.

We hope everyone can find a reason to reload. No matter what your reason, if you get into reloading, you will be glad you did so!

Quick Reloading Tip

From Joe "Ol' Joe"

You can use a deep-well socket in the place of a bullet comparator to measure the length of a case as compared to that of another. This will save a great amount of money over buying a real comparator from Hornady or Stony Creek.

Benefit 4 Kids

By Al Baggett- President B4K

Within 50 miles of you right now, chances are there is a child suffering from a life threatening illness or a disability that hinders their lifestyle daily. This illness or disability makes it very difficult and sometimes even impossible for that child to do things their friends enjoy daily. Maybe that "thing" is to go hunting or fishing and enjoy the great outdoors, which many of us take for granted. Due to the financial strain an illness or disability can put on a family, it may be impossible for many to experience the outdoors.

These children may have a "wish" to take part in an outdoor adventure, but had no idea that their dream could actually become a reality. Wouldn't it be great if there was an organization that could make these wishes come true? Well, actually, there is: Benefit4Kids!

Benefit4Kids was founded in 1998 with its primary mission to grant outdoor wishes to terminally ill and life limited children, along with their families. Although Benefit4Kids is based in Michigan, they help children from all over the United States. 2009 has been the biggest year in the history of Benefit4Kids, and the outdoor community has responded with more help than ever before!



Outdoor wishes such as bear & antelope hunts out west, salmon fishing in Alaska, and one on one dolphin interactions in Florida were just some of the trips the children and their families experienced in 2009. The goal is not only to accommodate the child's wish, but to also include their immediate family, so they all may share the experience and create a lasting memory of their time together. In many cases, the families must spend a lot of their time and resources just taking care of their sick children. Including the entire family on these trips, provides a great way to give them the break they may desperately need. Wish trips are provided at no cost to the families and are completely organized and arranged by Benefit4Kids. Benefit4Kids also works and supports other organizations which cater to kids and outdoor activities. The average cost of a child's wish trip is \$4000.00. In order to ensure we always have enough funds to continue granting these "Outdoor Wishes", Benefit4Kids holds two main fundraisers each year with a January banquet and a June Outdoor Weekend. There are many other events that are held by local clubs & organizations, as well as affiliates in other states, to help support our efforts.

These other events, & the support they provide, make it possible for Benefit4Kids to help as many kids as we do each year. Without the support of these other groups, organizations, clubs, & of course the average sportsmen in general, Benefit4Kids would cease to exist. Benefit4Kids is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization made up of 100% volunteers which allows all proceeds raised to go straight to the various programs we provide. Benefit4Kids can be found on the web at www.B4K.org & you can email us directly at info@b4k.org. Visit www.B4K.org today to learn more about Benefit4Kids: Our current events, how you can help provide terminally ill and life limited children with an Outdoor Wish, and much more. While you're there, take time to read some of the stories and see the results from many of the kids we have worked with over the years. We have the pleasure of bringing smiles to the faces of "our kids", and we are proud to help give them hope and courage to continue fighting and to never give up!



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